



**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**

Department of Revenue and Forest, Disaster Management,  
Relief and Rehabilitation, Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032  
No: DMU/2020/CR. 92/DisM-1, Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

**ORDER**

**Easing of Restrictions and Phase-wise opening of Lockdown. (MISSION BEGIN AGAIN)**

**Reference:**

- 1) The Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.
- 2) The Disaster Management Act, 2005
- 3) Revenue and Forest. Disaster Management. Relief and Rehabilitation Department Order No. DMU-2020/C.R.92/DMU-I, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.
- 4) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-PM-1(A) Dated 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

In continuation to the Order No. DMU-2020/C.R. 92/DMU- 1, dated 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 and 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 (extended by order dated 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2020) of the State Government and in exercise of the powers, conferred under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, hereby issues orders to *amend* and *include* the following in the revised guidelines Order dated 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020, after careful consideration of planning of containment areas and availability of health infrastructure, for the strict implementation by the concerned authorities of all the departments in the State of Maharashtra:

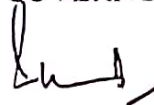
In clause 4, after sub-clause (xv) of the Annexure-II of the Order dated 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020, following will be added:-

*(xvi) Religious places and places of worship for public will be allowed to open with effect from 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 as per the timings decided by the trust / board/ authority of the respective religious places, outside of containment zones only. Wearing of face masks, social distancing, provision for thermal scanning and hand wash or sanitizers will be*

*mandatory. The SOP on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 in religious places / places of worship is attached herewith as ANNEXURE-A. The concerned local authorities in consultation with the relevant stakeholders can further add any directions to these Guidelines taking into consideration the local conditions.*

Further all norms of social distancing and precaution to prevent Covid-19 as prescribed in above referred orders shall be followed.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF MAHARASHTRA



(SANJAY KUMAR)  
CHIEF SECRETARY  
GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

Copy to :

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
2. Hon'ble Chairman, Maharashtra Legislative Council.
3. Hon'ble Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra.
5. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra,
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra,
7. Private Secretary to Leader of Opposition, Legislative Council / Assembly,
8. Private Secretaries of All Hon'ble Minister/Minister of State, Mantralaya,
9. All Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of Government of Maharashtra.
10. Director General of Police, Maharashtra State, Mumbai,
11. Principal Secretary, Public Health Department, Mantralaya,
12. Secretary, Medical Education, Mantralaya,
13. All Divisional Commissioners in the State
14. All Commissioners of Police in the State
15. All Commissioners of Municipal Corporations in the State
16. All District Collectors
17. All Chief Executive Officers, Zilla Parishad
18. All District Superintendents of Police in the State



## GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

Department of Revenue and Forest, Disaster Management,  
Relief and Rehabilitation, Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032  
No: DMU/2020/CR.92/DM-I, Dated 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

### ANNEXURE - A

#### SOP on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 in religious places/places of worship

1. Background –

Religious places / places of worship get frequented by large number of people. To prevent spread of COVID-19 infection, it is important that required social distancing and other preventive measures are followed in such premises.

2. Scope –

This document outlines various generic precautionary measures to be adopted in addition to specific measures to be taken at particular places to prevent spread of COVID-19. Religious places/places of worship for public in containment zones shall remain closed. Only those outside containment zones will be allowed to open up.

3. Generic preventive measures –

Person above 65 years of age, persons with comorbidities, pregnant woman and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home. Organisations managing the religious institutions to advise accordingly. The generic preventive measures include simple public health measures that are to be followed to reduce the risk of COVID-19. These measures need to be observed by all (workers and visitors) in these places at all times. These include:

- i. Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet in public places as far as feasible.
- ii. Use of face covers/masks to be mandatory.
- iii. Practice frequent hand washing with soap (for at least 40-60 seconds) even when hands are not visibly dirty. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers (for at least 20 seconds) can be made wherever feasible.
- iv. Respiratory etiquettes to be strictly followed. This involves strict practice of covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow and disposing off used tissues properly.



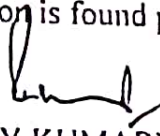
- v. Self-monitoring of health by all and reporting any illness at the earliest to state and district helpline.
- vi. Spitting should be strictly prohibited. Penalty may be imposed as a deterrent.
- vii. Installation & use of Aarogya Setu App shall be advised to all.

4. All religious places shall also ensure:

- i. Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitizer dispenser) and thermal screening provisions.
- ii. Only asymptomatic persons shall be allowed in the premises.
- iii. All persons to be allowed entry only if using face cover/masks.
- iv. Posters/standees on preventive measures about COVID-19 to be displayed prominently. Audio and Video clips to spread awareness on preventive measures for COVID-19 should be regularly played in all places of worship.
- v. Staggering of visitors to be done. The number of people allowed inside the premises in any particular time slot may be decided on factors such as the size of the structure, ventilation etc by the trust/ board along with the local authorities (District Collector/ Municipal corporation etc).
- vi. Shoes / footwear to be preferably taken off inside own vehicle. If needed they should be kept in separate slots for each individual / family by the persons themselves.
- vii. Proper crowd management in the parking lots and outside the premises – duly following social distancing norms shall be organized.
- viii. Any shops, stalls, cafeteria etc., outside and within the premises shall follow social distancing norms at all times
- ix. Specific markings may be made with sufficient distant to manage the queue and ensure social distancing in the premises.
- x. Preferably separate entry and exits for visitors shall be organized
- xi. Maintain physical distancing of a minimum of 6 feet at all times when queuing up for entry. Management of the place of worship will be responsible for the same.
- xii. People should wash their hand and feet with soap and water before entering the premises.
- xiii. Seating arrangement to be made in such a way that adequate social distancing is maintained. For air-conditioning/ventilation, the guidelines of CPWD shall be followed which inter alia emphasises that the temperature setting of all air conditioning devices should be in the range of 24-30°C, relative humidity should be in the range of 40-70%, intake of fresh air should be as much as possible and cross ventilation should be adequate.
- xiv. Touching of statues/idols / holy books etc. not to be allowed.
- xv. Large gatherings/congregation continue to remain prohibited.



- xvi. In view of potential threat of spread of infection, as far as feasible recorded devotional music/songs may be played and choir or singing groups should not be allowed.
- xvii. Avoid physical contact while greeting each other.
- xviii. Common prayer mats should be avoided and devotees should bring their own prayer mat or piece of cloth which they may take back with them.
- xix. No physical offerings like Prasad/distribution or sprinkling of holy water, etc. to be allowed inside the religious place.
- xx. Community kitchens/langars /"Ann-daan", etc. at religious places should follow physical distancing norms while preparing and distributing food.
- xxi. Effective sanitation within the premises shall be maintained with particular focus on lavatories, hand and foot-washing stations/areas.
- xxii. Frequent cleaning and disinfection to be maintained by the management of the religious place.
- xxiii. The floors should particularly be cleaned multiple times in the premises.
- xxiv. Proper disposal of face covers / masks / gloves left over by visitors and/or employees should be ensured.
- xxv. Worship place workers and personnel need to have a Covid-19 safety protocol and pre-joining and weekly Covid test in highly exposed groups.
- xxvi. Toilet and eating places need crowd control.
- xxvii. Number, space and distance protocol to be maintained by each worship place with an undertaking to the Police and Collector for adherence.
- xxviii. In case of a suspect or confirmed case in the premises:
  - a. Place the ill person in a room or area where they are isolated from others.
  - b. Provide a mask/face cover till such time he/she is examined by a doctor.
  - c. Immediately inform the nearest medical facility (hospital/clinic) or call the state or district helpline.
  - d. A risk assessment will be undertaken by the designated public health authority (district RRT/treating physician) and accordingly further action be initiated regarding management of case, his/her contacts and need for disinfection.
  - e. Disinfection of the premises to be taken up if the person is found positive.

  
(SANJAY KUMAR)  
CHIEF SECRETARY  
GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA